SATURDAY EVENING POST.

A FAMILY NEWSPAPER—NEUTRAL IN POLITICS—DEVOTED TO NEWS, LITERATURE, SCIENCE, MORALITY, AGRICULTURE, AND AMUSEMENT.

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From the Philadelphia Casket.

Oh, for Home!

BY C. J. PETERSON.

I love to look on the peaceful bright,
As on the sleeping infant's face,
In the gentle sweet, and quiet light,
With its calmness deeply and tenderly there,
Which the heart can feel and the eyes can see.
And I love to look on the moonlight sea,
When the waves are sleeping their last sleep,
And the ivory bark is on its deep,
And the voice of the mourning sea
Is hushed to say in its monotony,—
"Oh rest! oh rest, for the rest is sweet!"
For, for away!

I love to look on a young boy's face,
With the sunny smile of childhood there—
To hear the laugh of the careless glee,
Like the gushing music of summer sea,—
For it seems to say as they flout along,
With mirth heard here, and the sunlight there,
"The land!—the land by the sunset sky,
Where the golden gates of the west are set,—
Oh! the old grove young in that realm of day."
For, for away!

Those sunny scenes are unsuited to me now,
To dreamless dreams that by them blow!
And mystical breathes in their low-like tones
And hymns that seem as the sacred thrones:
The sun sings out; and there is no night
And myriad flowers, in wreaths of white,
Floating along upon azure wings,
Their fragrance waft in the heavenly strings—
"Oh let us fly to that realm of day.
For, for away!"

From the Knickerbocker for February.

THE KNIGHT OF MALTA.

A TRADITIONARY REMINISCENCE.

Ha! 'tis the rumor of a tale which I made in early; in the days of my juvenility, I passed some little time at the ancient city of Catania, at the foot of Mount Etna. Here I became acquainted with the Chevalier L——, an old Knight of Malta. It was not many years after the time that' Napoleon had dislodged the Knights from their island, and he still wore the insignia of his order. He was not, however, one of those refugees of that once chivalrous body, who have been described as "a set of worthless, lazy, unprincipled rakes, without certain ports of Europe, with the Maltese cross on their breasts;" on the contrary, though advanced in life, his form was still light and vigorous: he had a pale, thin, intellectual visage, with a high forehead, and a bright, observant eye. He seemed to take a fancy to me, as I seemingly did to him, and we soon became intimate. I visited him occasionally, at his apartments, in the wing of an old palace, which, in former times, had been the residence of the Spanish governors of Mount Etna. He was an antiquary, a virtuoso, and a connoisseur. His rooms were decorated with mutilated statues, dug up from Grecian and Roman ruins; old vases, and various other curious antiques. He had astronomical and chemical instruments, and black-letter books, in various languages. I have since had occasion to visit him in his chemical studies, and hold a humiliating offer unto antiquity and virtuosoship. He offered to believe in fossil remains of animals, and in the Greek fire of Kaisarinian destruction. I cannot prevaricate myself, however, that he really believed in all these: I rather think he had a shrewd perception of the humbug, low every one the harmless fairy land where they unfolded.

In company with the chevalier, I took many excursions on horseback about the environs of Catania, and the picturesque skirts of Mount Ætna. One of these led through a village, which had sprung up since the last great eruption of the volcano, and which was then in full activity. At one time we passed, for some distance, along a narrow lane, between two walls. We observed that there was a cut-throat looking place, in a country where assassinations are frequent; and just about midway through it, we observed fixed upon the opposite wall, and low down, a small cross, with the title; and we committed them.

The chevalier reported his horse, until he had entered into conversation completely from this suspicious neighborhood. He then observed, that it reminded him of a similar blind alley in Malta, whence an account of the many mysterious crimes that had taken place there; concerning one of which, he related a long and tragical story, that lasted until we reached Catania. It involved various circumstances of a wild and supernatural character, but which he assured me were handed down in tradition, and generally credited by the old inhabitants of Malta.

As I like to pick up strange stories, and as I was particularly struck with several parts of this, I made a memorandum of it on my return to my lodgings. The memorandum was lost, with several sheets of my travelling papers, and the story had faded from my mind, when, a few years after, a French memoir, I came accidentally upon it, drawn up, it is true, in a very different manner, but agreeing in the leading facts. It was the memoir of a worthless adventurer, the Count Cagliostro.

I have amused myself, during a snowy day in the country, by rendering it roughly into English, for the entertainment of a youthful circle round the Christmas fire. It was well received by my auditors, who, however, were mostly pleased with one proof of its merits in, that it sent some of the youngest of them dashing to their beds, and gave them very broad hints that they thought it high time the same effect upon your ghost-hunting readers. I offer it, Mr. Editor, for insertion in your Magazine, if it would afford you any relief. I have modified the French version of the story, it has been in confidence to me, and is communicated as the narrative of my friend, the Knight of Malta.

Your oth's, sert. GEOFFREY CRAYON.

THE GRAND PRIOR OF MINORCA.

A TRADITIONARY STORY.

"Keep up your spirits, brethren! there is a gentle appearance of To-morrow's match, and the prayer open!"

About the middle of the last century, while the Knights of Saint John of Jerusalem still maintained something of their ancient state and sway in the island of Malta, there arrived in that place there, which is the ground work of the following narrative.

It may be as well to premise, that the time we are treating of, the order of Saint John of Jerusalem, grown excessively wealthy, had degenerated from its original character, and instead of being a fraternal of being a hardy body of "monk-knights," known soldiers of the cross, fighting the Paynim in the Holy Land, or scouring the Mediterranean in search of infidel corsairs, they were mere land-gulpers, or feeding the poor, and attending upon the sick in their hospitals, they led a life of luxury and libertinism, and spent the best part of their revenues in the splendid courts of Europe. The order, in fact, had become a mode of providing for the needy younger sons of the Catholic aristocracy of Europe. "A commandery," we are told, was a splendid provision for a younger brother; and men of rank, indolent disposition, provided they belonged to the highest aristocracy, became Knights of Malta, just as they did bishoprics, or colonels of regiments, or court chamberlains. After a brief residence at Malta, the knights passed the rest of their time in their own countries, or only made a visit now and then to the island. While there, having but little military duty to perform, they beguiled their idleness by paying attentions to the fair.

There was one circle of society, however, in which they could not obtain entrance. This was composed of a few families of the old Maltese nobility, natives of the island. These families, not having succeeded in most any of their members to the order, affected to hold no intercourse with its chevaliers; admitting none into their exclusive societies, but the Grand Master, whom they acknowledged as their sovereign, and the members of the chapter which composed his council.

To indemnify themselves from this exclusion, the chevaliers carried their gallantries into the next class of society, composed of those who held civil, administrative, and judicial situations. The wives of this class were called *mezzes*, or demi-nobles, to distinguish them from the inferior orders; and among these were many of superior grace, beauty, and fascination.

Even in this more hospitable class, the chevaliers were not all equally favored. Those of fine, manly look and graceful person, owing to their facility and fresh complexions, and the kindliness of their manners, next to them, came the Spanish cavaliers, on account of their gravity, their courtesy and decorum, and most discreet secrecy. Singular as it may seem, the chevaliers of France fared but indifferently. They were thought to lack gravity, and their promises to insist of their amours, and shunned all entanglement with them. They were favored, therefore, by such ladies as wish to preserve appearances among females of the lower orders. They swaggered themselves, after the gay French manner, by making the "honorable" the objects of all kinds of jests and scandalous stories, by paying into their tender affairs with the more fortunate chevaliers, and making them the theme of public conversation.

About this time, a French count arrived at Malta, bringing not a distinguished personage of the order of Saint John, but of the rank of commander de Foulquerre, who came to solicit the post of commander and chief of the galleys. He was descended, from an old and warrior line of the French nobility, his ancestors having long been seneschals of Poitou, and claiming descent from the first counts of Aquitaine.

The arrival of the commander caused a little uneasiness among the peevishly inclined, for he bore the character, in the island, of being fiery, arrogant, and overbearing. He had already had three times at Malta, and on each visit had signalized himself by some rash and deadly affray. As he was now thirty-five years of age, however, it was hoped that time might have taken off the fiery edge of his spirit, and that he might prove more staid and sedate than formerly. The commander set up an establishment befitting his rank and pretensions; for he arrogated to himself an importance greater even than that of the Grand Master. He arrived immediately because the reigning piece of all the young French chevaliers. They inferred him of all the slights they had received, and indulged in their petty pasquinades, last and satirical vein at the expense of the hermitage and their admirers. The chevaliers of Spain, on the contrary, were disposed to view the ostentation at the commander's irksome and offensive, and gradually ceased to visit there. The commander was not slow to take the hint, and soon found himself the associate of his deadly encounters, and the very first person he visited with whom he had been given, and dwelt vaingloriously on every particulars.

Among his visitors, the young French chevaliers began to add bluster and arrogance to their former petulance and levity; they feed up on the most trivial occasions, particularly with those who had been remarked to visit with the fair; and would put on the most intolerable drawcasser airs. The other chevaliers conducted themselves with all possible forbearance and courtesy; but they saw it would be impossible to keep on long, in this manner, without coming to an open rupture.

Among the Spanish cavaliers, was one named Don Luis de Lima. Vuscencilho. He was distantly related to the Grand Master; and had been specially and strongly urged by his patron, to show him every possible courtesy, which he rigidly promoted by him, until, at the age of twenty-six, he had been given the richest Spanish commandery in the order. He had, moreover, been intimate with the fair, with one of whom, the most beautiful mezzes of Malta, he had long maintained the most tender correspondence.

The character, rank, and connexions of Don Luis put him on a par with the imperious Count, and rendered him a fit person to single out as a leader and champion to his countrymen. The Spanish chevaliers repaired to him, therefore, in a body, and requested that a meeting might be instantly, and the rule they apprehended, and urged him to use his influence with the commander, and to endeavor to put a stop to the growing slights.

Don Luis was gratified by this mark of confidence and esteem, on the part of his country. He promised to have an interview with the Commander de Foulquerre on the subject. He resolved to conduct himself with the utmost courtesy and delicacy to the stranger, to represent to the commander the evil consequences which might result from the incomfortable conduct of the French chevaliers, and to entreat him to exert the great influence he so deservedly possesses over them, to restrain their excesses. Don Luis was aware, however, that the task he had undertaken was a delicate one, and that the result of a mild interview of the kind with this imperious and fractious man, and apprehended, however it might commence, that it would terminate in a duel. He was a skilful man of honor, in which Castilian dignity was concerned; besides, he had a lurking disgust at the overbearing assumptions of the commander, and perhaps had been somewhat offended by certain intrusive attentions which he had presumed to pay to the beautiful mezzes.

It was now Holy Week; a time too sacred for worldly feuds and passions, especially in a community under the immediate influence of religious ceremonial, therefore, that the dangerous interview in question should not take place until after the Easter holydays. It is probable, from the circumstances, that the object of the Commander de Foulquerre had some information of this intrigueous timing the Spanish chevaliers, and was determined to defeat it. Every day, in the week of the pride of their champion, who was thus peremptorily to bind him a better. He chose timed to the Grand Master, and signified his wish to visit him at his hospitals, they led a life of luxury and libertinism, and spent the best part of their revenues in the splendid courts of Europe. The order, in fact, had become a mode of providing for the needy younger sons of the Catholic aristocracy of Europe. "A commandery," we are told, was a splendid provision for a younger brother; and men of rank, indolent disposition, provided they belonged to the highest aristocracy, became Knights of Malta, just as they did bishoprics, or colonels of regiments, or court chamberlains. After a brief residence at Malta, the knights passed the rest of their time in their own countries, or only made a visit now and then to the island. While there, having but little military duty to perform, they beguiled their idleness by paying attentions to the fair.

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The entire results by her fractional retailing have been very satisfactory, and the amount of money to be realized, when all the goods are disposed of, will be very large. Her stock is now very full, and she is daily receiving fresh supplies. Her store is in the centre of the city, and her location is such that she can be found without much trouble. Her terms are cash, and she sells at a small profit. Her business is conducted with great system, and she has a corps of assistants, all of whom are polite and attentive to customers. Her success is a matter of congratulation to her friends, and will be to the public, when they learn that she has the largest and best assortment of Millinery Goods ever offered in this city.

The Union Hotel, in Lexington, Ky., was burned last night. Loss estimated at $30,000.

Poetry.

The Dying Boy.

"Mother! mother! I'm dying!" It was the voice of my son, who had ridden, and was now sobbing violently as he tried to raise his head in the bed. "Mother! mother! I'm dying!" he cried, as I rushed to his side, and laid my hand upon his forehead, to smooth back the clustering curls that had matted there in the sweat of death. "Mother! mother! I'm dying!" he repeated, as a partial sense of the condition, he imbibed, was for the second, put his hands up to his forehead, and then, as if in pain, he tossed them about twenty times, but continued, "—but, mother, what's the matter?"

His eye met mine, and he knew, before he had a few drops of laudanum, the other end of the bed, and then, as if in pain, he tossed them about twenty times, but continued, "—but, mother, what's the matter?"

"Oh! mother's dead!" It was the voice of his son

SATURDAY EVENING POST.

PHILADELPHIA: SATURDAY, DEC. 30, 1843.

GENERAL NEWS.

SMALL PAY OR VERNACULAR.—The Boston Herald states that within a few months past, seventy thousand persons have died in that city of the Small Pox, and that about 1000 have had the disease. The same paper suggests the necessity of a general vaccination. We have a fact on this subject that is worthy of notice. A person came to this city a few weeks since from the South and was taken after words sick with the Small Pox, which terminated fatally. There were ten other persons in the house, all of whom had been vaccinated in their infancy, and a few of whom were now re-vaccinated, but none not re-vaccinated. In all these the Small Pox; of the four that were re-vaccinated, none.

☞ J. M. LEMMONIER, Esq. of Hamburg, S. C. will please act as agent for the Courier and for the Post.

☞ Dr. SPEAR, P. M. at Greenbush, is appointed the Post Office at Greenbush, Union county, Pa.

☞ THADDEUS CORTES, P. M. at Coopersville, Lancaster county, Pa., in place of Jacob Cortes, deceased.

☞ Jos. L. LARKIN, P. M. at Southerside, Va. is agent for the Post and Courier.

☞ M. EDMUND, Esq. P. M. at Providence, Union county, Ohio, will please act as agent for the Post and Courier.

☞ E. B. VATTIER, P. M. Tuscumbia, Miss. will please act as agent for this paper and the Courier.

By Postmasters and Subscribers.

We request that Postmasters and subscribers who receive this paper, and do not wish it to be sent another year, will so inform us, and the paper will be stopped at once. A paper ordered and received "refused" is an insult. Instead of refusing a paper, write us a letter and tell us why it is unpopular for us to find the post town at which a paper is received by the next return of the paper, and it must be our own fault if we continue to send it. Such is the duty of the volunteer. We are impervious in this matter.

Correspondents.

The "Sons of Liberty" shall appear.

The "Rose of Sharon" is under consideration. The author will not take it unkindly when we say that in rejecting it we are governed by the best motives. Nothing that all are opinions and pretty thoughts are here rejected from the Post. Whatever we think will be of interest to the public we publish. We should like to hear from the author.

"Lines to Laura" was too late. Several answers were received and one to type before her.

Mr. Rachel Sharp" is good, but not good enough. A little more labor would have made it excellent.

"To Martha," Mifflin.

"I. K. C." Adam. We are not satisfied with "Earnest Answer."

"Penalty" will not answer. We do not like Poverty.

Charity can be cannot answer without responsible names with which we are not acquainted.

A. V." misunderstands us. We merely stated what the subscription proposed and what was demanded, and in what manner. Mr. Neither advanced, nor opposed it. The sum of money was not to be raised by the Post, but was spoke exclusively and advanced nothing but facts' Our subscription list is increasing, and we have no doubt generally of the rationale of the old system. As to the beneficial effect of a cathartic, we do not deny it. We believe our paper, however, to be a good one, and we endeavor to make it so, and therefore, and not on personal account have in last the struggling subscriber to rid himself of a disagreeable intruder. We might enroll at many of our subscribers' names, but the weakest of our people are not care little about the subject, and we are do not feel particularly interested ourselves, we prefer the present.

"Lines on Summer" are poor. Occasional verse will not write them.

"Lines" are chosen as evidenced subject.

"Poesy" is too green for our palate.

"Reminiscences of Childhood" will be found verbatim in "Lancaster."

"Joe" must exercise his old virtue patience.

Misscellaneous Chronicle.

We had the pleasure a few days since of conversing with a Mr. Samuel Riley, of Kent county, Maryland, a native of Africa, and a most interesting statesmen, who has been for many years a pupil of Dr. Comstock, of this city, for some six or eight weeks last past, and were gratified to notice a total cure of his deafness, which has been of a long standing. Mr. Riley has been a statesmen from infancy, and now except from the great caution with which his pronunciation is attended, there is no defect in his speech is apparent. We mention this for the benefit of those who are afflicted in like manner, and can assure them that we have every reason to believe Dr. Comstock fully able to effect a cure.

An Adventure of the Mail.

The following cool rebuke is administered by the Reporter of this city, to our friend of the Messenger, of the same city, for his attempt at a side down, when he made the statement, for it is certainly amusing to all men calculators.

"The Reporter notes by the Dutch Henry, is published in Alexander's Messenger, with the following glowing caption:

10 Days Ahead of other Western.

"The same news, but more in detail, was published in the Reporter of Tuesday last. According to the calculation of our good-natured contemporary, therefore, the news was published in the Reporter eleven "days ahead of other week-lies." The truth is, we have been fortunate with regard to the dates of the news of our subscription, but have not deemed it necessary to make much noise about the matter, the readers of the Reporter know it is important in all such cases, to decide for themselves."

The fact is Charley is sometimes ahead, and sometimes behind, but rather successful or not, he puts a good natured face on the matter and beats his stereotype "*ahead of all the weeklies*," but how he manages to get so *far ahead* is perplexing.

From Texas.

We are indebted to the officers of the steam packet Galveston, plying between the Houston and Galveston pieces of the 5th ult.

The bill to sectionize and sell the Cherokee lands has been adopted.

A bill has passed the House of Representatives to pay the volunteers in specie or its equivalent value. Where will the government get it?

The claims of the clerks of the different departments have been raised to $2200 and $2500 per annum.

The Comanches have entered Bexar and made known their anxiety to conclude a treaty with the government. They have been humbled, by repeated defeats, into terms of submission; yet little reliance is to be placed in their professions.

Among other acts of Congress, we find one providing for the establishment of a penitentiary. The treaty with Texas has been ratified by the Senate. An extra appropriation of $5000 has been ordered to complete the running of the boundary line between Texas and the United States.

Col. Burleson, having mustered the country and thrashed the Cherokees, has returned.—*N. O. Bee, Jan. 23.*

The Blood Hounds.

It seems that the Blood Hounds imported for the purpose of hunting down the Seminoles are to be unmuzzled. It is said that the animals will not interfere with their hunting powers, but with our friend of the Gazette, we cannot understand that the muzzle will render it impossible that the dog shall be driven to the Indians "without a wound or a bullet-proof" muzzle all over his body, legs and all. The muzzlement, imparted with the hounds, are not fighting, but blood-hunt, and will not move a step without troops at their heels, nor approach near enough to see or be seen by the enemy. The muzzle would hinder the hounds, even in the field or horseback, by its side of the dog, put upon the track of the Indians. It is said that this species of hound will follow, by the roan, the track of any given man for days together, and at an interval of thirty or fifty hours. It is thought by the people of Florida that, in this way, the enemy can be followed with certainty into their most secret fastnesses—hammocks and swamps.

Our opinion is, that the Indians will soon retire the business for them thirty days, and their day themselves, and that the presence of the dogs will be unnecessary. We will be glad to see, by the Mail, that the hounds of "modern" were the Romans, A Frenchman, commenting upon the Blue Hounds, remarked: but if it is only the effect of a mercantile order, and to be attended with no other effect than the destruction of the Indians, we shall be glad to see them muzzled.

Pennsylvania Legislature, Dec. 4, 1843.

In the Senate, Mr. Cox presented a petition signed by citizens of Juniata county, in favor of the incorporation of a public School in the N. Section for the instruction of children in the German language.

Mr. Cox presented a petition from Gideon Dickinson, praying for the passage of a law to change the costs on suits on Aldermen and Justices of the Peace in certain cases. The bill to divide Montgomery into four wards, was reported and passed. The resolution calling for the correspondence relative to the loss of lost year, offered by Mr. Frailey, (of Schuylkill,) was taken up. The question directing the issue of certificates of State stock, for interest due on the 1st February, was taken up and passed with amendments, providing that six per cent. interest be paid.

In the House, Mr. Russell, from Committee on Corporations, reported a bill to incorporate the Co-operative Company, in Philadelphia.

Committee was appointed to bring in a bill to change the law for electing Commissioners of the District of Southwark.

The bill providing that a vote shall be taken upon the retailing of ardent spirits was referred to the Committee on Vice and Immorality. The resolution offered by Mr. Crabb to extend for five years the time for the completion of the West Philadelphia Railroad, was adopted. A number of Senate bills were also passed.

In consequence of an error in computing the amount of State upon which interest would fall due on the 1st inst. by the former then Treasurer, there is yet a deficit of $40,000 for payment of interest.

FEBRUARY 5, 1840.

SENATE.—A statement of the affairs of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind was laid on the table by the Speaker.

Mr. Fraley (city) presented a memorial from the Philadelphia Board of Trade, in reference to some alteration of the law relative to voluntary assignments.

Mr. Sherrerd presented a petition for alteration of the Auction Laws.

The Governor's Message in relation to the loan, was received, and, after some debate, referred to the Committee on Revenue Bills, and the usual number ordered to be printed.

HOUSE.—Mr. Roberts, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill providing that Colored Children shall be taught in the Public Schools, at the requests or guardians are not able to support and educate them.

Mr. Russell reported a bill relative to election of Commissioners in the District of Southwark.

A resolution was offered by Mr. Brodhead, from Committee on Ways and Means, providing for the negotiation of a loan of $40,000, on the most favorable terms, which was read a second time and agreed to.

Mr. Penniman offered a proviso, that the banks not paying specie shall not take said loan, which was negatived: Yeas 14, nays 63.

FEBRUARY 6, 1840.

SENATE.—The Speaker presented a memorial from the Philadelphia Board of Trade, deprecating a too early resumption of specie payments; also a remonstrance against any change in the time of holding the election of a Commissioner in the District of Southwark. Mr. Stevenson, from the Committee on Banks, reported a supplement bill with amendments of a general character relating to Banks, and fixing the 25th inst. for the resuming.

Mr. Fleeling, from Committee on Revenue Bills, reported the loan bill as committed, which passed the House yesterday. The Senate adjourned without action on it.

HOUSE.—The Speaker laid before the House the memorial of the Philadelphia Board of Trade against a too early resumption of specie payments.

Mr. Law presented a memorial from the Philadelphia Board of Trade, asking for an alteration in the law relating to Commissioners of Southwark. Mr. Smith, several remonstrances against any alteration of the auction laws; Messrs. Hoffman and George, petitions for a change in the time of election. Several were presented in relation to injuries done by roads.

The bill dividing the town of Germantown into two wards, was taken up and passed.

FEBRUARY 7, 1840.

SENATE.—Mr. Snyder presented a memorial against a too early resumption of specie payments. Mr. Brown, four in favor of a resumption immediately.

HOUSE.—The Speaker presented a copy of the proceedings of a meeting of Democratic citizens, held in Philadelphia on the 6th inst. in relation to the Pennsylvania bill, and the bankers, on Saturday, on the Columbia Railroad, near the Peoli, by the cars running off the track.

DISCRIMINATIVE IN EGYPT.—Horace Vernet, the celebrated painter, lately in Egypt, gave great gratification to the Viceroy by exhibiting views he had taken with the Daguerreotype.

STEAMBOAT ACCIDENT.—The steamboat Pixie, lost a seven pair on Wednesday morning the 15th ult. between Vicksburg and Natchez. The Natchez came alongside and took her passengers, &c.

CAPTURE OF BANDITTI.—Several of the notorious banditti who have infested the Roman States for a long time past, have been captured by the police. Among the number is Gasperoni, the chief of the band.

Mr. Gilfillan, reported a bill for the election of Mayor by the people in the Northern Liberties.

Mr. Brown offered a bill for the better regulation of the banks, Loan Companies and Savings Institutions.

Mr. McClure, a bill to extend for ten years the charter of the Mayoralty Bank.

A great number of small bills were passed, among which are one to incorporate the Colpin Cemetery, of Philadelphia county.

SENATE.—The most of the day was occupied in the discussion of the Criminal Court bill.

Arrival from the South.

The barque Chilian, 66 days from Valparaiso, has arrived at Baltimore. No news except of unusual local occurred between the Chilians and Peruvians. Preparations were making for an invasion to her sailing. The Chilian Fleet, under Com. Nelson, had arrived at Talcahuano about the 1st of October from Peru.

The United States sloop of war St. Louis, Capt. Forrest, was at Talcahuano on the 31st November, just arrived from Valparaiso. The U. States sloop of war Lexington, Capt. Clark, was lying at Callao on the 24th November, all well, to sail in a few days for Callao.

The U. States store ship Constitution, Commodore Claxton, sailed from Valparaiso for Callao on the 15th November.

From the Mexican Frontier.

By the arrival of the U. S. brig Boxer, from Rio Janeiro, dates from that port as late as the 12th of December, we learn that an arrival at that place from St. Catharine's, reports that Lages had been taken by the government forces, commanded by Marshal Andrea. The rebels, under Canabarro, had retreated to the interior.

Lt. Col. Tavares, by pleading out his eyes, and then ended his life by repeated stabs. They then fled to the mountains, where they were pursued and found a number of prisoners, who consequently perished. It is said that the rebels lost 900 men, and the government 53 were killed and wounded.

The arrival of the brig Boxer, Commodore Nicholson, has arrived at New York from Matanzas, via Rio Janeiro. She brings $160,000 in specie to Messrs. Howland and Aspinwall.

From La Plata.

The Journal of Commerce gives the following extracts from latest advices:

MONTE VIDEO, Nov. 22, 1839.

A vessel has just arrived from Maldo Gracias, with despatches from Gen. Lavalle, to Admiral Le Blanc, in which he informs him, that his army is in readiness to march to meet the enemy at Entre Rios. We are led to believe that a strong force may be expected here from France in all next month, and that Monsieur Roger will accompany it.

BUENOS AYRES, Nov. 16th, 1839.

[After giving an account of the unsuccessful Revolutionary attempt in the Southern part of the Province of Buenos Ayres, the substance of which has been already published, our correspondent says:] As yet the town is tranquil, the dollar is now 10 a 12 per cent. The Government is issuing more paper money, and dollars silver are worth 104 paper, doubloons 305. The French blockade the ports of this city, and have taken two vessels of the principal trade in the river, so that the ports between this and Point Indio are not blockaded a quarter of the time.

This morning arrives an express from the army sent against the Revolutionists, to say they have defeated them, and have engaged in a fight "Ajo," for Monte Video in several small vessels, there, and also on board the French fleet. They killed of them 300, and have engaged in it with many officers, escaped—but some were taken and shot. The head of Gen. Castillo is in the public square at Dolores. No mercy is shown to the wounded, and it is said they will be shot. A body of 200 are yet in arms near Bahia Blanca, and will doubtless share the same fate. Letters from the army in Entre Rios and against Gen. Lavalle, state that the two armies are in sight of each other, and an action was daily expected.

Assumption of the State Debts.

The following is the report of the select committee, of which Mr. Grundy is Chairman, on the assumption of the State debts by the Government of the United States:

1. Resolved, That the assumption, directly or indirectly, by the General Government, of the debts which have been or may be contracted by the States for local objects or State purposes, would be unjust, both to the States and to the people.

2. Resolved, That such an assumption would be highly inexpedient, and dangerous to the Union of the States.

3. Resolved, That such assumption would be wholly unauthorised by, and in violation of, the constitution of the United States, and utterly repugnant to the objects and purposes for which the Federal Union was formed.

4. Resolved, That to set apart the public lands, or the revenues arising therefrom, for the before mentioned purposes, would be equally unjust, inexpedient and unconstitutional.

The Postmaster's Proposition.

The Baltimore Sun states on the authority of the Post of that city, that the Postmaster General has submitted proposals to the Philadelphia and Baltimore Railroad Company, of which the following is a summary:

1. That the company transport the Southern and Northern mails and way mails between Philadelphia and Baltimore, under charge of agents of the office department, over the new Philadelphia at hours to be fixed by the Postmaster General.

2. The company to transport a second daily mail and way mails, under charge of the mail carrier, nine months in the year, and so much longer as the company runs two trains of passenger cars; the second mail to connect with the morning mail from New York; the hours in other respects to be selected by the company.

3. The compensation for the service to be $300 a mile, about $30,000 per annum, with additional allowance for carrying the mails between the depots and the post offices in the cities; the compensation not to be increased, in case the department should deem it advisable to put the western mail on this route.

The Steamer.

The late rains making the large quantity of snow on the ground have produced a considerable freshet in the river Schuylkill. A small branch has been made in the Navigation Company's dam, and the water is rushing through it. An arch is about six feet in height and will in easily repaired. The toll house at the guard lock of the Monongahela dam was upset and destroyed by a body of ice piling up against it. The body of water falling over the lowest work of Fair Mount dam, on Saturday morning, is said to have been seven feet in height.

The freshet on the Delaware, at Trenton, was very high on Sunday, and fears were entertained for the safety of the bridge at that place. The accumulated waters started the ice, and drove the greater portion below the bridge, where it again became jammed, and the river began to rise. The masses of ice drove in the walls of the new foundary of James M. Richmond, which had just been put into operation, by Messrs. Seiner, Davis and Crook. The west wing three stories high, fell, on the side next the river, carrying down the entire roof and damaging the three end of the north part of the foundry. The last of machinery and the building under the control of the company. The guilt of the building was not insured. The guilt of the three factory which stands near the foundry, and has resisted the floods for years. In the neighborhood of the foundry, many houses were moved in, passing from house to house. We are informed that a house on the side of the bank at Lambertville, has been carried away, a house that had been, for several years, a factory yarn, the breaking up of the river.

Letter from Matamoras.

The operations of the Federal army, before Matamoras, are detailed in a letter which we annex:

MATAMOR, Jan. 8th, 1840.

DEAR SIR—Almost the 6th of December, the federal army, under the command of Canales, fourteen hundred strong, encamped within two miles of Matamoras, which place, it was eagerly expected by the soldiers, would be attacked immediately. They remained in this position for two days, during which time the federal cavalry made several attacks on the enemy's pickets, driving their pickets up to their fortifications. On the morning of the 9th, seventeen Anglo-federalists, and sixteen Mexican cavalry, marched into town, and made an attack upon one of the principal outposts of the enemy, consisting of a battery of three pieces of artillery, and one hundred men.

After a spirited engagement of 15 minutes, the Federalists, perceiving a strong force advancing to joining the enemy, retreated without the loss of a man, mounted their horses and rode round town on plain three of the enemy for an hour, when considering the enemy making their timely appearance they returned to camp. We shortly after received intelligence from town stating the enemy's loss to be thirteen killed and seven wounded. From information received through a confidential friend in town, Gen. Canales did not think it prudent to attack the place; the force of the enemy being estimated at seventeen or eighteen hundred men. On the 15th we left the Federal army about fifty miles from Matamoras on a forced march to Monterey; which place the Federal commander expected to invest by the 24th—the central force in that place was about four hundred.

The Federalists were in excellent spirits, and anticipated an easy conquest. When we left the army, it consisted of twelve hundred Mexicans, two hundred Anglo-federalists, and four pieces of artillery. The greatest harmony prevailed among the Anglo-federalists and Mexicans, and we are happy to say that the volunteers from east of the Rio Grande have conducted themselves with the utmost propriety since they have been in the Mexican republic. Respectfully,

JOHN F. C. HEUSSINGER,
THOMAS JEMISON.

Mr. Webster's Plan to Suspend the Bankrupt Law.

The following is a summary of Mr. Webster's plan for preventing steamboat accidents and punishing carelessness.

1. That the owners or masters of all steamboats, or vessels propelled in whole or in part by steam, employed in the transportation of passengers or of goods, wares or merchandize, or of both, shall be deemed, to all intents and purposes, common carriers thereof, and shall be liable to all the duties and responsibilities imposed upon such common carriers by the common law; and every restriction, limitation or qualification shall be considered utterly void.

2. That whenever any damage or injury shall occur to any passenger, or to any goods, wares or merchandizes, on board of any such steamboat or vessel, propelled in whole or in part by steam, from fire or steam, or collision with any other vessel, the same shall be deemed full prima facie evidence of negligence against the owner, or the proprietor or proprietors of such steamboat or other vessel propelled by steam, and those in their employment, with the full amount of such loss, damage or injury, until they shall show, beyond any reasonable doubt, that no negligence whatever had occurred on their part.

3d. That if any inspector or inspectors appointed under the law, to which this is a supplement, shall carelessly or negligently perform the duties required of him by law, or shall make a false return of any certificate required by the same act, knowing the same to contain any false statement, he or they shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanor, and shall, on conviction thereof, be punished by fine not exceeding $500, and by imprisonment not exceeding 90 days, according to the circumstances of the offence, and shall also be liable, in a civil action, to all damages which shall be occasioned thereby, to any person or persons whatever.

The select committee is instructed further to inquire and report to the Senate what judicial decisions have been made under the remaining law, and especially whether it has been the effect of any such decision to render the law inoperative in all parts of the country.

The Wrecked Steamer.

Payment has actually been made by the British Government for the slaves wrecked from America coasting slavers, at Bermuda, and liberated by English law.

We have from Washington a copy of the correspondence between the two Governments, communicated to the Senate, and the sum of £32,500 was voted for this purpose by the House of Commons, on the 5th of August, on Mr. Stevenson's report, "relative to the claims of the United States."

Lord Palmerston, however, in a letter of 2d May, announcing the purpose of the Cabinet to recommend such an appropriation, refers Mr. Stevenson "to the correspondence which has already passed between them on this subject, *for the reasons which will prevent the British Government from admitting, either now or hereafter, any claim for compensation in respect to slaves thrown within British jurisdiction, after the period when slavery was abolished on the British dominions.*"

From Florida.

From the Savannah Georgian, Feb 1.

We have been favored with the following extract of a letter, remitted by a gentleman of this city, dated 18th January, 1840:

"Gen. Taylor is proceeding with his army, in two columns, down the country, between the Gulph and Suwanee, scouring the whole of it in driving Indians as he advances, and will probably be through it in a few days, when he will establish the posts, intended to secure the population in his rear from the further depredations of those marauders, when he will cross to East Florida, and turn his attention in that quarter.

Capt. Hooton, of Davenport's command, captured a camp of Indians near Decatur's Bay, a few days since, and killed two or three of them, capturing every article they had with them."

Suicide.

Accounts from Tiverton say, that the English ship Essington, has arrived in that port from Tuscarora, with which place the captain of the vessel, Mr. Watson, has succeeded in bringing away one of the survivors of the crew of the English schooner Mary Ann, which was taken by the natives in 1832. This unfortunate man, Joseph Tobee, an Englishman, has lived 17 years as a slave at Lagoon, in Tiger Land, where the schooner was headed ashore and burnt, the remainder of the crew being murdered. During all this time he was most cruelly treated, and has suffered to an extent that it may be doubted whether he will ever recover the use of his legs, which have been, as it were, shrivelled and crushed from the head of the bone. Only terrestrial labor could save him from chastisement with a fire-brand, of the effects of which there are evidently marks all over his body. He has wholly forgotten his mother tongue, not being able even to count ten; so that little or no information can be obtained from him.

SUPREME MOMENT.—About 5 o'clock on Saturday morning, last, a woman named Mary Scofield fired lying dead in her house, 49 Thirteenth street, New York.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

Gardening for the month of January, 1844.

BY JOHN A. KENNEDY.

The following remarks are intended to be read in connection under the main name of Arcadia, which appeared in one of the most beautiful ornaments during the short life, to the Flower Garden. In addition to it, we intend to publish a series of articles on it, many, with thousands of copyright being sold, united with the exquisite perfection of form and grateful contrast, must naturally excite the highest admiration of all who love the adornment of nature, and the cultivation of which, the Floral and etc. seem all promptly upon the tender petals, giving to the whole quite a picturesque effect.

In blossoming, and consequently dress, one bloom immediately succeeding the other, and which the foliage remains into increased growth. The season for planting is from May to June, when in the open ground or the Bulb will flower beautifully by placing it in a Hyacinth glass in water. Or it may be planted in pots in the garden, and protected by the middle of the month, by the brilliant hues, is quite striking.

In the Garden they should be planted in rows, with a few apart between each, and about 6 inches above any soil will suit them, but if too rich should be combined with a proportion of her sand.

In pots, for which they are charmingly adapted, the soil should be composed of *loam, sand, well rotted manure*, and her sand, in equal quantity, with a corresponding proportion of *leaf mould* or *Loam*, that taken from an old pasture field the most preferable.*

They are very tender; and immediately on the leaves being destroyed by frost, should be placed in a dry cellar for preservation during winter. In this they may be kept in a dry closet or moderately warm room, with perfect safety.

Endosmical in company with others of the same tribe (Amaryllidea) of splendid beauty and elegance. The Bulbs are natives of the Cape of Good Hope. Sandy Loam, one of the early possess it of the Cape of Good Hope.

DIED,

On Sunday morning, 28th inst. Dr. BENJAMIN PRICE, in the 72d year of his age.

On Monday morning, 29th inst. Mrs. ELIZABETH, wife of Samuel Bell, in the 72d year of her age.

On the 29th inst. Mr. JOHN PRICE, Sen. Mayor, Mr. ANDREW PRICE, Mr. JAMES PRICE, Mr. WILLIAM PRICE, and Mr. SAMUEL PRICE, Jr.

On Wednesday morning, 27th inst. Mrs. ELIZABETH, wife of Mr. JAMES BOWEN, in the 72d year of her age.

On Wednesday

THE OLIO.

SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1868.

Poetry.

Literature.

Miscellaneous.

Ladies' Department.

Juvenile Department.

News for the Farmer.

Miscellaneous.

Miscellaneous.

Miscellaneous